of India (ASI) during the current financial year is much less than the provision made for holding of Festivals of India; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the allocations made under these two heads during the current financial year; and what are the reasons for usch meagre provisions for the ASI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) No Sir, The allocation made in the current financial year (1987-88) to Archaelogical Survey of India is Rs. 24.25 crores, while the allocation for the Festival of India is Rs. 10.66 crores.

(b) The question does not arise.

Defective Westland helicopters

*309. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Westland W-30-160 helicopters inducted into service in the country have been running into operational problems, so much so that engine shut-downs and engine related snags in one year of their operation are far above the average for any new helicopter;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the total expenditure incurred by Government on the purchase of these helicopters; and

(d) whether the matter has been taken up by Government with the manufacturers of the helicopters, if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Since the commencement of operation in the first week of October, 1986 the Westland fleet in the Pawan Hans Ltd. has had 25 cases of engine mal-functions resulting in 21 engine withdrawals.

(c) The package cost of 21 Westland-30 helicopters along with the associated spares and ground support equipment is £65 million.

(d) Yes, Sir. The matter has been taken up with the manufacturers of the engine i.e. M/s. Rolls Royce and M/s Westland who are applying themselves to resolve the problem areas.

Central Council of Rural Institutes

@*310. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Central Council of Rural Institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the Council is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) The Programme of Action for the implementation of the National Policy on Education 1986 *inter-alia* envisages the establishment of a Central Council of Rural Institutes for the implementation of a well-coordinated programme for the development of rural institutes. Details of the proposed Central Council and the programme have not yet been finalised.

Zonal Cultural Centres

*311. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the places where zonal cultural centres have been set up during the last two years;

(b) what measures Government propose to take to boost the activities of these centres;

@Previous Starred Question 520 transferred from the 11th March, 1988.